

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-16 (Cancelled)

17. (New) A polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising (a) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3, or (b) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3 having a deletion, substitution and/or addition of one or more amino acid(s).

18. (New) The polynucleotide according to claim 17, which is a DNA or cDNA.

19. (New) The polynucleotide according to claim 18, wherein the DNA or cDNA is human DNA or cDNA.

20. (New) The polynucleotide according to claim 17, which comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID No. 2 or 4.

21. (New) The polynucleotide according to claim 20, which is a DNA or cDNA.

22. (New) The polynucleotide according to claim 21, wherein the DNA or cDNA is human DNA or cDNA.

23. (New) An antibody against a polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 17.

24. (New) A polynucleotide which hybridizes to the polynucleotide of claim 20 or a partial sequence thereof.

25. (New) The polynucleotide according to claim 24, which is a DNA or cDNA.

26. (New) The polynucleotide according to claim 25, wherein the DNA or cDNA is non-human animal DNA or cDNA.

27. (New) A recombinant vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 17 or a partial sequence thereof.

28. (New) A recombinant vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 20 or a partial sequence thereof.

29. (New) A DNA probe comprising a partial sequence of the polynucleotide of claim 17.

30. (New) A DNA probe comprising a partial sequence of the polynucleotide of claim 20.

31. (New) A set of PCR primer comprising partial sequences of the polynucleotide of claim 17.

32. (New) A set of PCR primer comprising partial sequences of the polynucleotide of claim 20.

33. (New) A PCR primer comprising a partial sequence of the polynucleotide of claim 17.